

REMARKS:

Applicant replies to the Final Office Action dated December 16, 2009, within the shortened three month statutory period for reply. Claims 1-8 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 8. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5-7. Claim 1 is currently amended. Support for the amendments may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objects to claim 1 for various informalities. Applicant amends claim 1 to clarify the patentable subject matter, as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner next rejects claims 1-4 and 8 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Galindez, US Patent No. 4,372,471 ("Galindez"). Applicant respectfully disagrees, but to expedite prosecution, Applicant further amends the claims to further clarify the patentable subject matter.

As presently set forth in claim 1, the scribing line forming mechanism (201) is moving along the scribing prescribed line on the surface of the substrate G, and the scribing line forming means is following the movement path line of the scribing line forming mechanism (specifically the movement path line of the second turning axis 202). On the other hand, the pivot TS of Galindez is not moving along the scribing prescribed line, but is merely the joint of the arm supporting the scribing means. At least in view of the foregoing, Applicant asserts that claim 1 is differentiated from Galindez.

Dependent claims 2-7 variously depend from independent claim 1, so Applicant asserts that claims 2-7 are differentiated from the cited reference for the same reasons as set forth above, in addition to their own respective features.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims properly set forth that which Applicant regards as its invention and are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience, if that would help further prosecution of the subject application. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 19-2814.

Respectfully submitted,



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